October 3, 2012

Please note that news sites update their hyperlinks, so it is advised that articles of interest be read soon as they might not be accessible later.

The Detroit News: Legal system gets workout over ballot issues on road to Mich. election

"The November ballot in Michigan will be peppered with measures that endured legal tussles just to make it there, and some political observers say they can't remember an election where courts played such a major role. Several high-stakes ballot proposals were challenged all the way to the Michigan Supreme Court."

Full story

Also see:

Associated Press: Legal system gets workout on road to Mich. Ballot Full story

The Detroit News: 3 arrested, 1 hit with stun gun in Shelby Township court brawl

"Three men were arrested and one was zapped with a stun gun by police in 41A District Court on Tuesday after a fight broke out in the lobby, police said.... An officer shot the stun gun when one of the men began to assault another, [Utica Police Chief David] Faber said. The three men appeared to be opposing parties in a court case."

Full story

Also see:

Detroit Free Press: Police Taser man during disturbance at Shelby Township court

Full story

The Macomb Daily: Man Tasered, two face charges after scuffle in Shelby Township court

Full story

The Oakland Press: Brawl at Shelby Township court leads to man's Tasering, 2 arrests

Full story

WXYZ-TV(7)/Detroit: Police situation at 41A District Court in Shelby Township

Full story

WDIV-TV(4)/Detroit: 3 people detained after fight breaks out at courthouse in Shelby Township

Full story

Daily Press & Argus: Benefits ruling tells Michigan to 'go bankrupt,' Rogers warns

"Michigan was told 'go bankrupt' in a court ruling last week favoring state employees in an ongoing battle over public workers' benefits, state Rep. Bill Rogers, R-Genoa Township, said. In an opinion released last week, an Ingham County judge ruled unconstitutional a 2011 law sponsored by Rogers requiring members of a state employee pension fund to contribute 4 percent of their pay toward the fund."

Full story

Detroit Legal News: 36th District Court closed to the public 11:30 a.m. - 2 p.m. Oct. 4

"The 36th District Court will be closed to the public from 11:30 a.m. to 2 p.m. Oct. 4. The court will resume the afternoon docket and allow the public to reenter the building at 2 p.m."

Full story

Detroit Legal News: Wayne County Probate Court holds attorney training Oct. 4 (second article)

"The Wayne County Probate Court will conduct its 2012 attorney training session on Thursday, Oct. 4 at the Auditorium in the Coleman A. Young Municipal Center, 13th Floor (City Side). Two sessions will be held: Attorney Training from 9 a.m. to noon and from 1:30 p.m. to 3 p.m."

Full story

Flint Journal: Oakland County judge orders DNA testing in Judge Archie Hayman case, won't seal records

"An Oakland County judge today ordered DNA testing to determine whether Genesee County Circuit Judge Archie Hayman is the biological father of the children of a Flint attorney. Judge Cheryl A. Matthews also rejected a motion from Hayman's attorney to seal records in the case and suggested Hayman and Flint attorney Denise Ketchmark keep their focus on the two children at the heart of the complaint." *Full story*

Grand Rapids Legal News: Justice Marilyn Kelly Lawyers Weekly Woman of the Year

"Michigan Supreme Court Justice Marilyn Kelly has been named 'Woman of the Year,' Michigan Lawyers Weekly announced at its 'Women in the Law' awards ceremony Sept. 27."

Full story

Note: The Grand Rapids Legal News article also ran in the Macomb County Legal News. *Also see:*

JUSTICE MARILYN KELLY NAMED "WOMAN OF THE YEAR" BY MICHIGAN LAWYERS WEEKLY

Press release

Jackson Citizen Patriot: Retired Circuit Judge Edward Grant returns to bench while Judge John McBain takes leave of absence

"Retired Jackson County Circuit Judge Edward Grant has returned to the bench this week to temporarily handle matters once assigned to Circuit Judge John McBain. McBain has been out of the courtroom since mid-September. He is taking a paid leave of absence for personal reasons, said Chief Circuit Judge Thomas Wilson."

Full story

Lansing State Journal: Mayes: Attorney, court butt heads over miscashed check

Columnist Mark Mayes writes "Lansing attorney Mike Maddaloni came to me seeking a little justice from the justice system — specifically 55th District Court."

**This article is available by subscription only.

The Macomb Daily: Macomb judge stays child molestation trial

"A Macomb County judge Tuesday stayed a child molestation trial so prosecutors can appeal his decision to prevent the prior testimony of a 4-year-old former accuser. Judge Matthew Switalski granted the

request for assistant Macomb prosecutor Nicole Blank to delay the trial so prosecutors can ask the state Court of Appeals to allow the jury to hear the girl's testimony from a prior court hearing in the cases against Stanley and Vita Duncan of Fraser."

Full story

The Macomb Daily: Union pay issue stalls new court in St. Clair Shores

"Construction on a new district court in St. Clair Shores has been placed on hold while city officials confer with the low bidder to see if the company would be willing to use union workers for the project, a move that could add as much as \$400,000 to the building's cost."

Full story

The Morning Sun: Three seats at stake in Michigan Supreme Court race

"Picking judges for the Michigan Supreme Court is at the top of the nonpartisan section of the Nov. 6 election ballot. In an oddity of politics, judicial races are nonpartisan but Michigan Supreme Court candidates are picked by political parties at their conventions."

Full story

Muskegon Chronicle: Suspect in attempted gunpoint robbery of retired Muskegon judge to stand trial

"Retired Muskegon County Probate Judge Thomas Linck described in detail Wednesday his face-to-face encounter with the man who allegedly attempted to rob him at gunpoint in a church parking lot.... Linck had two different opportunities to see his attempted robber up close, he told Muskegon County 60th District Judge Harold F. Closz III during Wednesday's preliminary hearing."

Full story

Oakland County Legal News: Free seminar presented by Probate Court, Oct. 12

"On Friday, Oct. 12, the Oakland County Probate Court will conduct a free seminar titled 'Removing the Mysteries of Probate Court' at the Royal Oak Senior Center from 1 to 3 p.m. This program is designed to enlighten and educate senior citizens and their families so that they may make informed decisions regarding their estate planning and understand the probate process."

Full story

Oakland County Legal News: Patriot Week Festival fun at farm

"The third Patriot Week Festival took place on Saturday, Sept. 15, at historic Hoffman Farms in Highland, Michigan.... A grassroots effort created in 2009 by [Oakland County Circuit Court Judge Michael] Warren and his then 10-year-old daughter Leah, Patriot Week was declared by the Michigan House and Senate as a week of remembrance."

Full story